

# Rabada's ban overturned, available for 3rd test

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SOUTH Africa's Kagiso Rabada had his two-test ban overturned on appeal yesterday, meaning the world's No. 1 bowler will be available for the remainder of the series against Australia.

Rabada was banned by the International Cricket Council for the third and fourth tests after being found guilty of two charges of misconduct for inappropriate wicket celebrations in South Africa's series-leveling victory in the second test in Port Elizabeth.

The first charge, of deliberately bumping into Australia captain Steve Smith after getting him out in the first innings in Port

Elizabeth, earned Rabada three disciplinary demerit points, took him over a threshold, and resulted in a two-test ban.

The 22-year-old Rabada and Cricket South Africa appealed that finding by arguing that he didn't deliberately bump into Smith. The appeal was upheld after an independent judicial hearing in Cape Town on Monday.

"The key issue is whether Mr Rabada made 'inappropriate and deliberate physical contact' with Mr Smith," said judicial officer Mike Heron, who heard the appeal.

"I am not 'comfortably satisfied' that Mr Rabada intended to make contact and I therefore find him not guilty."

Heron released his ruling on Tuesday, two days before the third test starts.

It was a rare case of a successful appeal against an ICC ruling, and the first time South Africa has succeeded with a legal challenge against cricket's governing body.

Cricket South Africa said it welcomed the decision.

The decision to drop the two-test ban is a major boost for South Africa ahead of the third test in Cape Town starting on Thursday. Rabada won the man-of-the-match award in the second test with 11 wickets and is the spearhead of the home team's bowling attack.

The South Africa-Australia series is level at 1-1 with tests in Cape Town

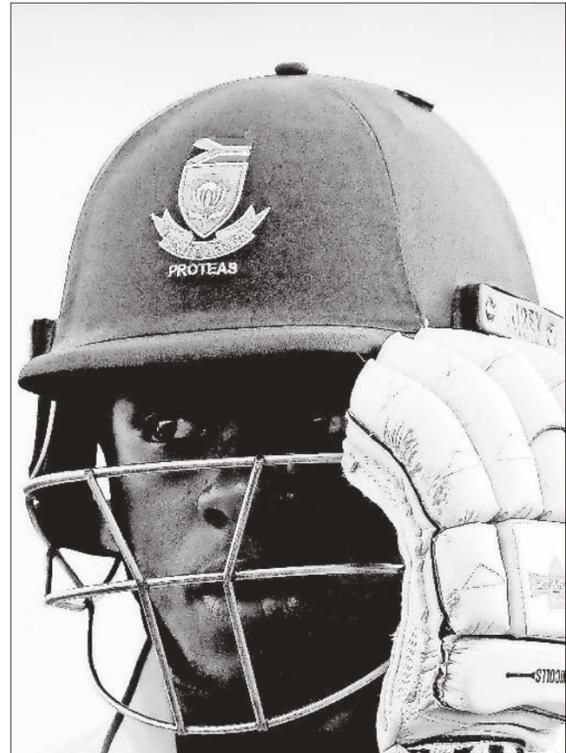
and Johannesburg to come and South Africa seeking a first home series win over arch-rival Australia since the end of apartheid.

Having cleared him of deliberately bumping into Smith, Heron instead found Rabada guilty of the lower-level offence of "non-deliberate and minor contact" and issued him with a one demerit point penalty and a fine of 25 per cent of his match fee. That punishment did not constitute enough demerit points for a ban.

Rabada had already pleaded guilty to a second charge in Port Elizabeth, of shouting in Australia batsman David Warner's face when he got him out. That also didn't constitute enough demerit points for a suspension.

As a successful young black cricketer, Rabada is a sporting role model in post-apartheid South Africa, but his huge talent has been undermined by a series of disciplinary sanctions. He was previously found guilty of inappropriate wicket celebrations on three occasions before this series and served a one-test ban in England last year.

While celebrating Smith's wicket in the second test against Australia, Rabada went down the pitch toward his teammates, bumping shoulders with Smith on the way. The contact was light, but the ICC recently brought in rules to stop any kind of physical contact



SOUTH Africa's batsman Kagiso Rabada leaves the field after being dismissed by Australia's bowler Mitchell Starc, for 3 runs on day two of the first cricket test match between South Africa and Australia in Durban, South Africa, on March 2. (AP)

between bowlers and batsmen in an effort to remove flashpoints in games.

"I consider the conduct was inappropriate, lacked respect for his fellow player and involved non-deliberate and minor contact," Heron said in a statement Tuesday. "The actions contravened the principle that a dismissed batsman should be left alone."

The ICC said it accepted the decision of the independent judicial hearing but also reminded players of their "responsibilities to maintaining a standard of behaviour which sets a good example to players at all levels of the game."

This series between South Africa and Australia has been ill-tempered.

Rabada is the fifth player in just two tests to be punished for misconduct. The first test in Durban was also overshadowed by an off-field confrontation between Australia's Warner and South Africa's Quinton de Kock, who were involved in a heated argument on a staircase outside the team dressing rooms.

During the argument, Warner had to be physically restrained by teammates and later accused de Kock of making a "vile and disgusting" comment about his wife.

## JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE OF NASSAU

TEE BALL DIVISION DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
Chester Cheetos	Hot Fries	6	1	0	12		
Snapple	Thunder Cats	5	2	0	10	1.0	
Green Parrot	Bears	3	4	0	6	3.0	
Summit Insurance	Blue Claws	2	5	0	4	4.0	
ERA Dupuch	Hornets	2	6	0	4	4.0	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Hot Fries	29	Hornets	19			
	Hornets	20	Thunder Cats	19			
	Hot Fries	15	Blue Claws	14			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Saturday	10:00	Hot Fries	Thunder Cats				
Saturday	12:00	Bears	Blue Claws				

COACH PITCH DIVISION DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
Clarks	Padres	7	0	0	14		
Ice River Springs	Rays	4	2	1	9	2.5	
Tropicana	Pirates	3	5	0	6	4.0	
Tropical Shipping	Cubs	2	5	0	4	5.0	
MES Heavy Equip.	Tigers	1	5	1	3	5.5	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Tigers	14	Pirates	12			
	Padres	15	Cubs	4			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Saturday	12:30	Cubs	Tigers				
Saturday	3:00	Rays	Padres				

MINOR DIVISION DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
John Bull	Astros	6	0	2	14		
F.Y.P	Marlins	4	0	2	10	2.0	
Fidelity Bank	Diamondbacks	4	3	0	8	3.0	
Blue Bird	Royals	1	5	0	2	6.0	
CBC Services	Angels	0	7	0	0	7.0	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Marlins	PP	Royals	PP			
	Astros	13	Angels	4			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Tuesday	6:30	Marlins	Royals		Completion - Week # 9		
Friday	6:30	Diamondbacks	Marlins				
Saturday	2:00	Royals	Angels				

MAJOR DIVISION DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
Sunshine Insurance	Giants	8	3	0	16		
Equity Trust	Yankees	8	4	0	16	0.5	
Coca Cola	Red Sox	5	5	1	11	2.5	
Kiddi Pharmaton	Athletics	5	6	0	10	3.0	
Super Value	Cardinals	4	7	0	8	4.0	
Earco Elite	Reds	3	8	1	7	4.5	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Red Sox	10	Athletics	9			
	Yankees	12	Reds	11			
	Giants	24	Cardinals	2			
	Cardinals	6	Yankees	4			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Wednesday	6:30	Athletics	Yankees				
Saturday	10:00	Red Sox	Giants				
Saturday	12:00	Reds	Cardinals				
Sunday	12:30	Athletics	Red Sox				

## JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE OF NASSAU

JUNIOR DIVISION DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
Scotia Bank	Phillies	6	0	1	13		
Equity Trust	Dodgers	6	1	1	13	0.5	
First Caribbean	Mariners	3	4	0	6	3.5	
Builders Mall Genesis	Indians	2	5	0	4	4.5	
Pinders Customs	Orioles	1	8	0	2	5.5	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Mariners	8	Indians	2			
	Phillies	8	Orioles	3			
	Dodgers	14	Mariners	11			
	Dodgers	12	Orioles	3			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Saturday	10:00	Mariners	Phillies				
Saturday	12:00	Indians	Dodgers				
Sunday	12:30	Indians	Orioles				

SENIOR DIVISION DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
Snack Pack	Rangers	5	1	1	11		
Multi Discount	Brewers	5	3	0	10	0.5	
Ins. Management	Blue Jays	2	3	1	5	2.5	
Sports Centre	Nationals	2	4	0	4	3.5	
Caribbean Landscape	Braves	2	5	0	4	3.5	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Brewers	13	Blue Jays	3			
	Rangers	11	Braves	6			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Saturday	2:00	Braves	Blue Jays				
Sunday	2:30	Nationals	Rangers				

GIRLS SOFTBALL DIVISION STANDINGS 2018 SEASON							
		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
TEAMS	POS.	WIN	LOSS	TIE	POINTS	G.B.	
Dairy Queen	Distributors	8	2	1	17		
Sports Centre	Players	7	3	0	14	1.5	
McCormick	Spice Girls	5	5	1	11	3.0	
Bahamas Waste	Crushers	5	6	0	10	3.5	
Subway	Spartans	4	8	0	8	4.5	
Family Guardian	Knights	3	8	0	6	5.5	
RESULTS		WEEK 9			03/18/18		
	Spartans	21	Crushers	19			
	Distributors	18	Spice Girls	13			
	Knights	PP	Players	PP			
	Spartans	16	Knights	14			
	Crushers	19	Distributors	15			
SCHEDULE		WEEK 10			03/25/18		
Saturday	10:00	Spartans	Distributors				
Saturday	12:00	Crushers	Knights				
Saturday	2:00	Spice Girls	Players				
Sunday	3:00	Crushers	Spice Girls				